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Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 20th, 26th and 27th meetings, on 24 October and 23 and 30 November 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.6 and A/C.2/71/L.46

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations" (A/C.2/71/L.6).

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[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20, A/C.2/71/SR.26 and A/C.2/71/SR.27.

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3. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations" (A/C.2/71/L.46), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Diaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.6.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the second preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.46.[2]

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.46 had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at the 27th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.46, as orally corrected (see para. 18, draft resolution I).

8. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Colombia.

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.46, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.6 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.14 and A/C.2/71/L.41

10. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/71/L.14).

11. At its 26th meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/71/L.41), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Diaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.14.

12. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair (Indonesia), the Committee agreed to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and to proceed to act on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.41.

13. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Barbados) made a statement and orally corrected the ninth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.41.[3]

14. Also at the 26th meeting, the Secretary read out a statement of the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.41.

[2] See A/C.2/71/SR.27.
[3] See A/C.2/71/SR.26.

15. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.41, as orally corrected (see para. 18, draft resolution II).

16. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.41, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.14 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft decision proposed by the Chair

17. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations (A/71/265), the addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, containing the summary of the final findings of the comprehensive review of the Joint Inspection Unit of United Nations system support for small island developing States (A/71/267/Add.1), and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: initial findings" (A/71/324/Add.1).[2]

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

18. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,[2] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[4] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[5] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[6] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[7] the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[8] the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[9] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[10] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[11] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[12] that have not yet done so to deposit

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[7] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[8] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[9] Resolution 70/1.

[10] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[11] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[13] and looking forward to the convening and the result of the fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Cancun, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017,

Recalling also the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[14]

Taking into account all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008, 65/155 of 20 December 2010, 67/205 of 21 December 2012 and 69/216 of 19 December 2014,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[15]

Recalling also the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,[16] and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[17] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity[18] and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[19] and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,[20]

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[21]

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island

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[13] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[14] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[15] Resolution 60/1.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[17] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[18] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[19] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[20] Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

[21] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems,

Recognizing also that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size,

Noting that the Caribbean Sea, when compared with all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the potential increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes, which increase their sustainable development challenges,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the safe transport of radioactive materials,

Mindful of the diversity of and dynamic interaction and competition among socioeconomic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote the integrated management of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Noting the significant progress made on regional ocean governance through the formulation of the strategic action programme of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem project, endorsed by ministers in 21 countries of the region,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the States members and associate members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law,

Recalling the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work and its contribution to the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law;

2. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

3. *Welcomes* the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance their support, including financial, technical and capacity-building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action;

4. *Also welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission;

5. *Further welcomes* the planned launch of a databank at the end of 2016 by the Caribbean Sea Commission which aims to improve the management of the specific emerging critical issues related to the sustainability of the Caribbean Sea through the sharing of management experiences and project resource data, including, but not limited to, the prediction, monitoring and management of sargassum seaweed inundation faced by the Caribbean;

6. *Welcomes* the convening of the seventh summit of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Cuba on 4 June 2016, and takes note of the Havana Declaration, entitled "United for a Sustainable Caribbean",[22] and the Plan of Action for 2016-2018,[23] which constitute fundamental instruments for promoting the preservation and sustainable use of the Caribbean Sea;

7. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist Caribbean countries and their regional organizations, as appropriate, in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

9. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

10. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to the relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

11. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the wider Caribbean region under annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto,[24] which entered into force in May 2011;

12. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

13. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,[18] to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

14. *Notes with deep concern* that invasive alien species, such as *Pterois miles* and *P. volitans*, known as lionfish, constitute an emerging threat to biodiversity in the wider Caribbean region, and urges the United Nations system and the

[22] A/70/996, annex I.

[23] Ibid., annex II.

[24] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1340, No. 22484.

international community to continue to provide assistance and support in addressing this issue in the region;

15. *Also notes with deep concern* the sargassum seaweed influx and its negative impact on the people, the territory and the economy of the Caribbean, as well as the deterioration of the coral reefs;

16. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively;

17. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to actively support the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States for the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

18. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing activities of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region;

20. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

21. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

22. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

23. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage,

particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

24. *Encourages* the international community and the United Nations system, in line with their programming priorities, to support initiatives aimed at addressing mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in the wider Caribbean region included in the Plan of Action for 2016-2018;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, emphasizing the three dimensions of sustainable development, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such, without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations, unless otherwise agreed.

Draft resolution II
Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[2] the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway)[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6] including chapter VII, on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[7]

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and

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[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the outcome documents and decisions of all United Nations conferences and processes related to the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030[8] and the New Urban Agenda,

Recalling also its resolution 70/202 of 22 December 2015 and all relevant previous resolutions,

Reaffirming that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three dimensions of sustainable development, and recognizing the ownership and leadership of small island developing States in overcoming some of these challenges, while stressing that, in the absence of international cooperation, achieving success will remain difficult,

Acknowledging that climate change and sea-level rise continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for some, represent the gravest threat to their survival and viability,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[9] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[10] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming that oceans and seas, along with coastal areas, form an essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are intrinsically linked to sustainable development, including that of small island developing States, and also reaffirming that healthy, productive and resilient oceans and coasts are critical for, inter alia, poverty eradication, access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, livelihoods, economic development and essential ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, and represent an important element of identity and culture for the people of small island developing States,

Welcoming the launch of the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework and the progress made, including the convening of its steering committee on partnerships for small island developing States, the holding of an informal stocktaking partnership dialogue on 18 July 2016 during the high-level political forum on sustainable development and of the first global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue on 22 September 2016, during the general debate of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, and the launch of a standardized partnership reporting template in June 2016,

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[8] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[9] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Noting with appreciation the establishment of the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network to share best practices and lessons learned among business sectors in small island developing States, and its contribution to the sustainable development of small island developing States, and encouraging its coherence with the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework,

Welcoming the meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on the theme "Making the 2030 Agenda deliver for small island developing States, building on the Samoa Pathway", held on 14 July 2016, and recalling resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, entitled "Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level",

Recognizing that it is crucial to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Samoa Pathway,

Recognizing also that, in spite of the considerable efforts of small island developing States and the mobilization of their limited resources, their progress in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy has been uneven, that some have regressed economically and that a number of significant challenges remain,

Welcoming the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts, and recalling paragraph 19 of the Samoa Pathway, which calls for strengthening this cooperation,

Reaffirming the need to mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects, and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to enable small island developing States to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 69/15 of 14 November 2014 and 70/202 of 22 December 2015;[11]

2. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway),[4] and urges its speedy and effective implementation, as well as effective monitoring, follow-up and review;

3. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the commitments and partnerships announced at the Conference and the fulfilment of the provisions on all means of implementation, as contained in the Samoa Pathway;

4. *Welcomes* the continuing commitment of the international community to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and to continue to seek solutions, including additional ones, to the major challenges facing them in a concerted manner in order to support the implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

[11] A/71/267.

5. *Recalls* the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the Samoa Pathway and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] as well as the outcome documents of all related United Nations conferences and processes;

6. *Welcomes* the decision in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016 to convene the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017;

7. *Also welcomes* the progress made on developing an action programme to address the food and nutrition challenges facing small island developing States, facilitated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in coordination with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, as requested in the Samoa Pathway;

8. *Further welcomes* the many ongoing initiatives and programmes in support of the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States and of the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages other initiatives in this regard;

9. *Acknowledges* in this regard that small island developing States are committed to the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and are mobilizing resources at the national and regional levels to that effect, despite their limited resource base, and calls upon the international community to assist and support small island developing States in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including by integrating its provisions into their national and regional policies and development frameworks;

10. *Urges* all partners to integrate the Samoa Pathway into their respective cooperation frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure its effective follow-up and implementation;

11. *Recalls* the need to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and their follow-up processes;

12. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, international and regional financial institutions and other multilateral development partners to continue to support small island developing States in their efforts to implement national sustainable development strategies and programmes by incorporating the priorities and activities of small island developing States into their relevant strategic and programmatic frameworks, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, at both the national and regional levels, in line with their mandates and overall priorities;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations system to support the efforts of small island developing States to strengthen their cooperation on enhancing action on adaptation to climate change;

[12] Resolution 70/1.

14. *Underlines* the need to give due consideration to the issues and concerns of small island developing States in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 12 of its resolution 70/202, in that regard takes note of the initial findings of the comprehensive review by the Joint Inspection Unit of United Nations system support for small island developing States,[13] and requests the Joint Inspection Unit to urgently submit the complete results of the review before the end of 2016 for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

16. *Also recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 70/202, notes that the high-level political forum on sustainable development shall devote adequate time at its 2017 meeting and at its future meetings to continue addressing the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States and the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages the high-level political forum to devote sufficient attention to these discussions, bearing in mind that small island developing States are a special case for sustainable development, as well as to lessons learned from the follow-up and review processes of previous conferences on small island developing States and their outcome documents;

17. *Further recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, and urges that effective measures be taken to reduce the reporting burden on small island developing States through coherent, coordinated and effective linkages between the follow-up and review arrangements for the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

18. *Urges* the international community to support small island developing States in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, in line with provisions of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, as appropriate to national contexts, with a view to supporting the implementation, follow-up and review of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

19. *Decides* to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, with a view to generating renewed political will and commitment, assessing the progress made, lessons learned, trends, gaps and new and emerging challenges, as well as mobilizing further action to accelerate implementation, and for this purpose also decides to convene a one-day high-level review, in September 2019 at United Nations Headquarters, as part of its seventy-fourth session, which will result in a concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed political declaration;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the implementation of the present resolution and, in preparing that report, to consult with Member States as well as the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and regional commissions, as appropriate, taking into account the work carried out by the United Nations system,

[13] See A/71/324.

as well as all relevant national, regional and subregional organizations, with a view to taking stock and analysing progress;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", unless otherwise agreed.

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 19 (c)

Sustainable development: disaster risk reduction

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Se**[illegible]**ne** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 20th and 28th meetings, on 24 October and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.9 and A/C.2/71/L.43

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Disaster risk reduction" (A/C.2/71/L.9).

3. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Disaster risk reduction" (A/C.2/71/L.43), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Díaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.9.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

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4. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair (Indonesia), the Committee agreed to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and to proceed to act on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.43.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.43 had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at the 28th meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Chile) made a statement and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.43.[2]

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.43, as orally corrected (see para. 14, draft resolution I).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.43, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.9 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.13 and A/C.2/71/L.39

9. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/71/L.13).

10. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/71/L.39), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Díaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.13.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.39 had no programme budget implications.

12. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.39 (see para. 14, draft resolution II).

13. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.39, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.13 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

[2] A/C.2/71/SR.28.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

14. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Disaster risk reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/204 of 22 December 2015 and all previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[1]

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] Agenda 21,[3] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[4] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6] and reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[7] in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of

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[1] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recognizing the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

Reiterating the call in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, business, communities and countries,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, and which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular that of developing countries,

Noting the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, held in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recognizing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and that the adverse effects of climate change, as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility, and in this regard acknowledging the internationally agreed outcomes adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[8]

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[9] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the face of disasters, weather-related hazards, including the El Niño phenomenon, and the adverse effects of climate change to prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to ensure resilience to their impacts, and recognizing in this regard the importance of developing coordinated multi-hazard early warning systems,

Recognizing that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[9] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, which often greatly exceed their capacity to respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should also be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

Welcoming the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and recognizing the importance of achieving the global targets of the Sendai Framework for the implementation of the new urban agenda,

Noting its resolution 70/203 of 22 December 2015, entitled "World Tsunami Awareness Day",

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 70/204;[10]

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;[1]

3. *Reiterates its call* for the prevention of new and the reduction of existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages countries, the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take into consideration the important role of coordinated disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

5. *Encourages* focused action within and across sectors by countries at the local, national, regional and global levels in the four priority areas of the Sendai Framework, namely, understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and in order to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

6. *Welcomes* the updated United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development,[11] in line with the Sendai Framework, and encourages the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take it into consideration in the coordination and

[10] A/71/230.

[11] CEB/2016/4, annex V.

elucidation of their respective activities, in the context of sustainable development and according to the Sendai Framework;

7. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to work towards the achievement of the global targets agreed in the Sendai Framework;

8. *Recognizes* in this regard, given the shorter time frame for achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework by 2020, the scale of action needed for the development of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, such as through the establishment and strengthening of national disaster loss databases, national and local risk profiles and available capacities, as well as the conduct of risk assessments, and reaffirms the need for the enhancement of the implementation capacity and capability of developing countries, including the mobilization of support through international cooperation, for the provision of means of implementation to augment domestic efforts in accordance with their national priorities;

9. *Urges* States, while implementing the Sendai Framework, to continue working on data collection and the development of baselines on current losses, including working towards the collection of disaggregated information and historical disaster losses going back, at least, to 2005, if feasible;

10. *Encourages* Member States to give appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] where it is reflected across several Goals and targets;

11. *Reiterates its strong encouragement* of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[13] the Paris Agreement, adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[9] and the Sendai Framework, while respecting the relevant mandates, in order to build synergies and resilience, and addressing the global challenge of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

12. *Urges* that due consideration continue to be given to the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework monitor;

13. *Looks forward* to the outcome of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction, recognizes the active engagement of Member States as well as the support from the United Nations system and other stakeholders in its work, and stresses the need for the outcome to be developed in coherence with the work of the Inter-Agency and

[12] Resolution 70/1.

[13] Resolution 69/313, annex.

Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators to ensure feasibility and consistency in implementation, collection of data and reporting;

14. *Recognizes* that, while each State has the primary responsibility for preventing and reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between Governments and relevant stakeholders, and also recognizes that non-State and other relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Sendai Framework, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations and relevant agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, play an important role as enablers in providing support to States, in accordance with national policies, laws and regulations, in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels;

15. *Encourages* Governments to promote women's full, equal and effective participation and leadership in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes;

16. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the role of youth, volunteers, migrants, local communities, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with the Sendai Framework;

17. *Recognizes* that biological hazards require strengthened coordination between disaster and health risk management systems in the areas of risk assessment, surveillance and early warning and that resilient health infrastructure and increasing the overall capacity of health systems reduces overall disaster risk and builds disaster resilience;

18. *Welcomes* the convening of the upcoming fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Cancún, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017;

19. *Also welcomes* the regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction held in 2016, and looks forward to those to be held in 2017, which will inform the discussions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

20. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation for disaster risk reduction includes a variety of sources and is a critical element in supporting the efforts of developing countries to reduce disaster risk;

21. *Acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster

risk reduction, the substantial increase in demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for timely, stable and predictable resources necessary for supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework;

22. *Recognizes* the continued importance of voluntary funding, and urges existing and new donors to provide sufficient funding to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through unearmarked, and, where possible, multi-annual contributions;

23. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction", unless otherwise agreed.

Draft resolution II
Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 69/218 of 19 December 2014 and 70/110 of 23 December 2015 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

Noting also that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[2] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[3] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

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[1] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[5] which includes an update on El Niño/La Niña conditions and a section on addressing the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon,

Conscious of the importance of enhanced concerted efforts by the World Meteorological Organization with relevant national, regional and international monitoring centres to deliver effectively and in a timely manner more regionally focused climate services as well as training and capacity-building related to El Niño/La Niña, and noting the role of the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, in this regard,

Mindful that, according to the El Niño/La Niña update of 28 July 2016 of the World Meteorological Organization, the strong 2015/16 El Niño ended in May 2016,

Recognizing that the peak of the 2015/16 El Niño was comparable in strength to the 1982/83 and 1997/98 events and, therefore, one of the strongest on record, and affected more than 60 million people during 2015 and 2016, in particular in developing countries, with significant short- and long-term impacts on the health of individuals, the economy and food production locally, regionally and globally, particularly affecting people whose livelihood depends on agriculture, fisheries and livestock activities,

Noting with concern that the El Niño phenomenon has posed a serious challenge to the hard-fought development gains of developing countries, particularly in terms of diverting resources from national development plans and programmes,

Noting with concern also that, as a consequence of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, heavy rains, floods and, conversely, cold and heat waves, wildfires, coral bleaching and drought episodes adversely affected countries and peoples, in particular in Latin America, Eastern and Southern Africa and South-East Asia and the Pacific, including by increasing the spread of diseases and the number of people displaced, affecting food security and infrastructure and hampering the ability of those countries and peoples to achieve sustainable development,

Noting with appreciation that some countries were able to partly reduce the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon by designing and implementing government-led early action plans that included the establishment of resilient multipurpose dams and other infrastructure projects, reinforcing existing social and productive infrastructure, revitalizing health services to combat vector-borne diseases, and strengthening social support services, safety nets, appropriate and preventive agriculture practices, income-generating public works and welfare programmes,

Acknowledging the importance of humanitarian assistance provided to countries that were most affected by the adverse effects of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, while stressing the need to transcend this approach in favour of a multidisciplinary and articulated development-based response to strengthen national institutional capacities and effectively address these adverse consequences,

[5] A/71/230.

Noting the appointments of the Special Envoys on El Niño and Climate by the Secretary-General and their role in calling attention to the severe short- and long-term impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño, and looking forward to further work in this regard,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

Noting the fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Cancún, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017,

1. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;[2]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the El Niño phenomenon, while recognizing ongoing national initiatives by affected countries to strengthen their capacities;

3. *Recognizes* the continued efforts by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue to make such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

4. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities aimed at reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

5. *Notes* the assistance provided to Governments by the International Research Centre on El Niño and by other Governments and institutions in the development of early warning systems that allow for the implementation of anticipatory risk reduction measures that contribute to the reduction of the potential human, economic and environmental impacts of the phenomenon;

6. *Recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives contributions from several climate centres, and also recognizes various initiatives undertaken by different countries to strengthen national and regional capacities;

7. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to urgently provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries that were affected by the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon;

9. *Encourages* responses to the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon not only to address the immediate needs but also to support longer-term sustainable development and build the resilience of livelihoods, especially in the agricultural sectors and rural areas;

10. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals to consider discussing, at the second and third annual multi-stakeholder forums on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, recommendations on how to better identify requirements and options for the adequate provision of science, technology and innovation elements to enable countries to address the impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, as appropriate;

12. *Encourages* the second and third Global Infrastructure Forums to identify and address, as appropriate, infrastructure and capacity gaps and needs to enhance preparedness and promote early actions in countries affected by the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon;

13. *Requests* the United Nations system, through existing coordination mechanisms and platforms, to take into consideration, where appropriate, the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon when designing risk reduction and development strategies, in particular in the context of the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-Informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development;[6]

14. *Encourages* interested Member States, with the support of the United Nations development system, to develop integrated, coherent and comprehensive government-led strategies to mitigate the adverse impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon and to collaborate in support of affected countries;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second and seventy-third sessions, under the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", a section on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider at its seventy-third session the topic "Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon" under the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction", unless otherwise agreed.

[6] CEB/2016/4, annex V.

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Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 20th and 28th meetings, on 24 October and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.17 and A/C.2/71/L.51

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" (A/C.2/71/L.17).

3. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" (A/C.2/71/L.51), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Díaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.17.

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[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

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4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.51 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the co-facilitator of the draft resolution (France) made a statement and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.51.[2]

6. Also at its 28th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.51, as orally corrected (see para. 8).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.51, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.17 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

[2] A/C.2/71/SR.28.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010, 66/200 of 22 December 2011, 67/210 of 21 December 2012, 68/212 of 20 December 2013, 69/220 of 19 December 2014 and 70/205 of 22 December 2015, and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also in full the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[1] and the Paris Agreement, adopted under the Convention,[2] acknowledging that they are the primary international, intergovernmental forums for negotiating the global response to climate change, expressing determination to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation, recognizing that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, and noting with concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of parties' mitigation pledges in terms of global annual emissions of greenhouse gases by 2020 and aggregate emission pathways,

Recalling further the Paris Agreement which, pursuant to article 2.2 thereof, will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,

Noting with appreciation the high-level signature ceremony for the Paris Agreement, held on 22 April 2016, and the high-level event for the entry into force of the Agreement, held on 21 September 2016,

Acknowledging that action on adaptation to climate change is an urgent priority for developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and bearing in mind that the provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation,

Welcoming the convening of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[2] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

to the Kyoto Protocol and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016, and welcoming also the Marrakech Action Proclamation,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[5] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[7] the outcomes of the thirteenth to twenty-first sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and of the third to eleventh sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[8] the Political Declaration adopted by the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016,[9] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[10] the Mauritius Declaration[11] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[12] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[13] the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[14] the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[15]

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[3] Resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 60/1.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[9] Resolution 70/294, annex.

[10] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[11] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[12] Ibid., annex II.

[13] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[14] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[15] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Taking note of the Green Climate Fund and its successful and timely initial resource mobilization process, making it the largest dedicated climate fund, and its approval of 1.17 billion United States dollars in funding as a milestone towards achieving the aspirational goal of approving 2.5 billion United States dollars in funding, which will help to deliver outcomes, in developing countries, to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, and reiterating the objectives and guiding principles of the Fund, including a gender-sensitive approach in its process and operations,

Noting the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation at all levels among the parties to and secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[16] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[17] as appropriate, while respecting their individual mandates,

Noting also the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to address the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

Recognizing the substantial risks posed by climate change to the oceans and marine ecosystems, and in this regard noting the convening of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as decided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016, to be held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017,

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[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[17] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Taking note of the decision of the Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization at its thirty-ninth session to implement, as part of a comprehensive basket of measures, a global market-based measure in the form of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation to address annual increases in total carbon dioxide emissions from international civil aviation above 2020 levels, taking into account special circumstances and respective capabilities,

Welcoming the recent adoption, at the twenty-eighth meeting of the parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,[18] of the amendment, as agreed in Kigali, to phase down hydrofluorocarbons, as a major contribution to the aims of the Paris Agreement,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing an increase in such impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, land degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and in this regard emphasizes that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent global priority;

2. *Welcomes* the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hosted by the Government of France in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015;

3. *Also welcomes* the early entry into force, on 4 November 2016, of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[2] and encourages all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[1] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible;

4. *Recalls* that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change, increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production, and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development;

5. *Welcomes* the nationally determined contributions submitted to date, and recalls that the regular updating of such contributions should reflect the highest possible level of ambition, in the light of different national circumstances, and

[18] Ibid., vol. 1522, No. 26369.

provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding, in accordance with the relevant decisions;

6. *Acknowledges* the work undertaken by the Lima-Paris Action Agenda, and encourages non-party stakeholders to scale up their efforts to address and respond to climate change;

7. *Reiterates* the resolve of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its decision 1/CP.19,[19] to accelerate the full implementation of the decisions constituting the agreed outcome pursuant to its decision 1/CP.13[20] and to enhance ambition in the pre-2020 period in order to ensure the highest possible mitigation efforts under the Convention by all parties;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[21]

9. *Recognizes* the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, and in that regard takes note of decisions 2/CP.19[19] and 2/CP.20[22] adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, on the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, and decision 1/CP.21,[23] in which the Paris Agreement was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting by the Government of Morocco of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Marrakech from 7 to 18 November 2016;

11. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Fiji to host the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in Bonn, Germany, in 2017;

12. *Urges* Member States, taking into account that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by climate change owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources towards achieving the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, and stresses the need to address the challenges posed by climate change that affect women and girls in particular;

13. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and congratulates the previous Executive Secretary for her achievements;

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[19] See FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1.
[20] See FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1.
[21] A/71/216, sect. I.
[22] See FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.2.
[23] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1.

14. *Recalls* its request that the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to paragraph 96 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[7] submit an action plan for the Secretariat that will be designed to work within existing procurement rules and policies aimed at integrating sustainable development practices into its operations and facilities management, building on existing efforts and promoting cost-effectiveness, and in accordance with legislative frameworks, including financial rules and regulations, while maintaining accountability to Member States, with the specific goal of a United Nations that does not, through its operations or facilities management, have a negative impact on the climate, as soon as possible, or by 2020, if practicable, and requests that the aforementioned action plan be submitted before the end of its seventy-first session;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019;

16. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, unless otherwise agreed.

United Nations A/71/463/Add.5

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 November 2016
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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 19 (c)

Sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 20th and 25th meetings, on 24 October and 18 November 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.10 and A/C.2/71/L.38

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa" (A/C.2/71/L.10).

3. At its 25th meeting, on 18 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20 and A/C.2/71/SR.25.

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Desertification, Particularly in Africa" (A/C.2/71/L.38), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Diaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.10.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.38 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at its 25th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.38 (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.38, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.10 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/206 of 22 December 2015, as well as other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] and its early entry into force, encouraging all parties the Agreement to fully implement it, and encouraging parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the international community committed to combating desertification, restoring degraded

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[2] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and striving to achieve a land-degradation-neutral world by 2030,

Taking note of resolution 2/24 of 27 May 2016, entitled "Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands", adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its second session,[4]

Noting that the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including Goal 15 and target 15.3, would serve as an accelerator to ending poverty and hunger, tackling inequality, empowering women and stimulating economic growth,

Noting also that combating desertification, land degradation and drought, including through sustainable land management, can contribute to easing forced migration flows influenced by a number of factors, including economic, social, security and environmental concerns, which can, in turn, reduce current and potential fighting over resources in degraded areas,

Acknowledging that striving to achieve land degradation neutrality would significantly contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development through the rehabilitation, restoration, conservation and sustainable management of land resources, and that this could potentially involve the development of voluntary national targets, in accordance with the specific national circumstances,

Noting that desertification, land degradation, drought, human activities[5] and climate change are closely related and that, if not addressed, they would pose a serious challenge to sustainable development for all countries, in particular developing countries,

Emphasizing the need to promote sustainable land management, sustainable forest management and the restoration of degraded land in order to combat desertification, land degradation and drought,

Noting the scientific findings of the third Scientific Conference of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, on the interlinkages between desertification and/or land degradation and climate change and their effects on human well-being,

Recognizing that healthy grassland and rangeland ecosystems can play a significant role in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 70/206 on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[6]

[4] UNEP/EA.2/19.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480, article 1.

[6] A/71/216, sect. II.

2. *Invites* parties affected by desertification, land degradation and drought to scale up their efforts, using available internal and external resources, for the implementation of their national action programmes, as appropriate;

3. *Encourages* developed countries party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1] to actively support the efforts of developing countries party to the Convention in promoting sustainable land management practices and in seeking to achieve land degradation neutrality, by providing substantial financial resources, facilitated access to appropriate technology and other forms of support, including through capacity-building measures;

4. *Also encourages* developed countries party to the Convention, and invites other countries in a position to do so, multilateral financial institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations and technical and financial institutions:

(a) To provide scientific, technical and financial assistance to help affected countries party to the Convention requesting assistance to set and achieve voluntary land degradation neutrality targets and to implement sustainable land management practices and land degradation neutrality initiatives;

(b) To establish equitable partnerships that encourage responsible and sustainable investments and practices by the private sector, which contribute to achieving land degradation neutrality that supports the health and productivity of the land and its people;

5. *Reiterates* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development reaffirmed women's vital role and their full and equal participation and leadership in all areas of sustainable development, and in this regard invites donors and international organizations, including the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the international financial institutions, regional banks and major groups, including the private sector, to fully integrate their commitments and their considerations on gender equality and women's empowerment and to ensure the participation of women and effective gender mainstreaming in their decision-making in combating desertification, land degradation and drought, ensuring that women and men have equal access to and are equal beneficiaries of resources, capacity-building, information and technology and that their needs and contributions are equally taken into account;

6. *Invites* Member States to take action towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and reaching voluntary targets on land degradation neutrality, in accordance with specific national circumstances and development priorities, in line with decisions adopted at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and welcomes the fact that a large number of Member States are already undertaking efforts to do so;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the further development and implementation of scientifically based, sound and socially inclusive methods and indicators for monitoring and assessing the extent of desertification, land degradation and drought, as well as the importance of efforts under way to promote scientific research in accordance with the Convention, and in this respect invites the secretariats of the

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[7] within their respective mandates, to collaborate on their activities whenever they are related to desertification, land degradation and drought;

8. *Recognizes* the benefits gained from cooperation through the sharing of climate and weather information, forecasting and early warning systems related to desertification, land degradation and drought, while also taking account of dust storms and sandstorms, at the global, regional and subregional levels, and in this regard likewise recognizes the need for further cooperation between States and relevant organizations in the sharing of related information, forecasting and early warning systems;

9. *Notes* the holding of the first African Drought Conference in Windhoek from 15 to 19 August 2016, which adopted a common strategic framework for a drought-resilient and prepared Africa and the Windhoek Declaration for Enhancing Resilience to Drought in Africa;

10. *Notes* the direction provided by the parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, to the secretariat of the Convention, as the lead organization for combating desertification, land degradation and drought, to take the initiative and invite other relevant agencies and stakeholders, such as United Nations agencies, international organizations, financial institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector, to seek cooperation to achieve target 15.3 of Sustainable Goal 15;

11. *Reiterates* that degraded land, if recovered, would, inter alia, contribute to restoring natural resources, thus potentially improving food security and nutrition in the affected countries, and in the process could, inter alia, contribute to the absorption of carbon emissions;

12. *Takes note* of the action already taken by the secretariat of the Convention in leading and coordinating global partnership processes relevant to the voluntary land degradation neutrality target setting programme at the national level to be coordinated by Governments, in accordance with their specific national circumstances, and the development of methodology and data options by the interagency advisory group to contribute to the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa", unless otherwise agreed.

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[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

United Nations A/71/463/Add.6

General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 19 (f)

Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (f) was taken at the 20th and 28th meetings, on 24 October and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.7 and A/C.2/71/L.42

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development" (A/C.2/71/L.7).

3. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development" (A/C.2/71/L.42), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Díaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.7.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.42 contained no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.42 (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.42, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.7 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 64/203 of 21 December 2009, 65/161 of 20 December 2010, 66/202 of 22 December 2011, 67/212 of 21 December 2012, 68/214 of 20 December 2013, 69/222 of 19 December 2014 and 70/207 of 22 December 2015 and its previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[1]

Recalling also the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[5] and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals convened by the President of the General Assembly,[6]

Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[7] and, inter alia, the commitments concerning biodiversity contained therein,

Reaffirming also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[8] and its principles,

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 68/6.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[9] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[10] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling that the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding,

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being,

Recognizing that the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention is crucial for sustainable development, poverty eradication and the improvement of human well-being and a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, States have the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

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[9] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recalling that, in its resolution 65/161, the General Assembly declared 2011-2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,[11]

Recognizing that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities make an important contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and that their wider application can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Taking note of the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its twelfth meeting entitled "Article 8(j) and related provisions",[12]

Recalling the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[13] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[14]

Recognizing the vital role that women play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and reaffirming the need for the full participation of women at all levels of policymaking and implementation for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity,

Recognizing also the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[15] an international agreement that stands at the intersection between trade, the environment and development in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and in ensuring that no species entering into international trade is threatened with extinction,[16] and that should contribute to tangible benefits for local people, stressing the importance of basing the listing of species on agreed criteria, recognizing the economic, social and environmental impacts of poaching and of illicit trafficking in wildlife, where firm and strengthened action needs to be taken on both the supply and demand sides, and emphasizing in this regard the importance of effective international cooperation among relevant multilateral environmental agreements and international organizations,

Noting the contribution of the secretariat of and parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation,

Noting also the convening of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as decided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016, in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017,

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[11] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/2, annex.

[12] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, decision XII/12.

[13] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[14] Resolution 69/2.

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

[16] See resolution Conf. 16.7 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Noting further the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its tenth meeting, of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[17] and acknowledging the role of access to genetic resources and equitable benefit-sharing arising from their utilization in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability and, thereby, to the achievement of sustainable development,

Noting that 91 States and 1 regional economic integration organization have signed and that 88 States and 1 regional economic integration organization that are parties to the Convention have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya Protocol, and noting also in this regard that the Protocol entered into force on 12 October 2014,

Noting also the Nagoya Protocol, the objective of which is the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding, thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components,

Noting further that 195 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Convention and that 169 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[18]

Noting that 50 States and 1 regional economic integration organization have signed and that 36 States and 1 regional economic integration organization that are parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[19]

Recalling the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth meeting of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention,[20] as well as decision X/3, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting,[21] on the review of its implementation, and the targets for resource mobilization, under Aichi Target 20 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision XII/3,[22]

Noting the outcomes of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the

[17] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/1.
[18] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.
[19] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/17, annex, decision BS-V/11.
[20] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/11.
[21] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.
[22] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.

Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, all held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, in 2014,

Noting also the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, which will be held in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2016, as well as the eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, all under the theme "Mainstreaming biodiversity for well-being", and recognizing that the outcomes of the meetings may contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity;[23]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity[18] on 12 October 2014;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Gangwon Declaration on Biodiversity for Sustainable Development, adopted at the high-level segment of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

4. *Encourages* the respective parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to take concrete measures towards achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] and the Protocols thereto, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[19] and the Nagoya Protocol, requests the parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to coherently and efficiently implement the obligations and commitments under the Convention and the Protocols, and in this regard emphasizes the need to comprehensively address at all levels the difficulties that may impede their implementation;

5. *Recognizes* that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can significantly contribute to disaster risk reduction and to reducing the adverse impacts of climate change, including by adding resilience to fragile ecosystems and making them less vulnerable;

6. *Urges* the parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 16 and other relevant provisions of the Convention, in this regard takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, as well as of decision XI/2, entitled "Review of progress in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and

[23] A/71/216, sect. III.

related capacity-building support to parties",[24] and also takes note of the relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting in this regard;[25]

7. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the secretariat of the Convention, parties to the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in conjunction with United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, as well as other entities, in organizing capacity-building workshops to support countries in the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, with a view to enhancing capacity and addressing the need for human, technical and financial resources to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020[11] and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,[11] adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting, in particular for developing countries;

8. *Urges* parties to promote the mainstreaming of gender considerations, taking into account the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity,[25] in developing, implementing and revising their national and, where appropriate, regional and subnational biodiversity strategies and action plans and equivalent instruments in implementing the three objectives of the Convention;

9. *Calls upon* Governments and all stakeholders to take appropriate measures to mainstream consideration of the socioeconomic impacts and benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components, as well as ecosystems that provide essential services, into relevant programmes and policies at all levels, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing to pursue more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, and calls upon parties and stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation measures for the fulfilment of obligations contained in the Convention;

11. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 by the parties to the Convention;

12. *Recognizes* that parties to the Convention have reiterated that resources, financial, human and technical, need to be mobilized from all sources, and that this should be balanced with the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, stresses the need for further consideration of the evaluation of all resources mobilized in terms of the biodiversity outcomes achieved, and in this regard welcomes the decision of the parties to the Convention on an overall substantial increase in total biodiversity-related funding for the implementation of the Strategic Plan from a variety of sources, including national and international resource mobilization, international cooperation and the exploration of new and innovative financial mechanisms, and takes note of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting in this regard;

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[24] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35, annex I.

[25] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, decision XII/7, annex.

13. *Invites* countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

14. *Invites* parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Nagoya Protocol, and invites the Executive Secretary of the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in collaboration with relevant organizations, to continue to support capacity-building and development activities to support the ratification and implementation of the Protocol;

15. *Also invites* parties to the Convention to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

16. *Invites* parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;[20]

17. *Takes note* of the work done by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, and in this regard invites the secretariat of the Convention, through the Secretary-General, to report on the progress made when reporting on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly;

18. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming biodiversity in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as part of national implementation plans for the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular all biodiversity-related Goals and targets;

19. *Takes note* of the fourth plenary meeting of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, which aims to provide the best available policy-relevant information on biodiversity and ecosystem services to assist decision makers, including through its summary for policymakers of the assessment report on pollinators, pollination and food production and its summary for policymakers of the methodological assessment report on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services;

20. *Stresses* the importance of the engagement of the private sector and other stakeholders in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and in the achievement of the biodiversity targets, invites them to align their policies and practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including through partnerships, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities, and in this regard stresses the importance of the ongoing work of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity;

21. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[26] and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[10] (the Rio conventions) and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, acknowledges the importance of improving coherence in the implementation of

[26] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

those conventions, recognizes the importance of enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, without prejudice to their specific objectives, in this regard notes the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as reflected in its resolution 2/17 of 27 May 2016, and encourages the conferences of the parties to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements to consider strengthening efforts in this regard, taking into account relevant experiences and bearing in mind the respective independent legal status and mandates of those instruments;

22. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the outcome of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and difficulties encountered in the process of their implementation, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, unless otherwise agreed.

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 19 (g)

Sustainable development: report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (g) was taken at the 20th, 27th and 28th meetings, on 24 October, 30 November and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.5 and A/C.2/71/L.45

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme" (A/C.2/71/L.5).

3. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme" (A/C.2/71/L.45), submitted by the Vice-

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20, A/C.2/71/SR.27 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

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Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Diaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.5.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the tenth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.45. Subsequently, the Chair informed the Committee that action on the draft resolution would be postponed to a later date.[2]

5. At the 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Chair made a statement and also informed the Committee that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.45 had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Costa Rica) made a statement and reiterated the correction to draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.45.[3]

7. Also at the 28th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.45, as orally corrected (see para. 9).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.45, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.5 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

[2] See A/C.2/71/SR.27.
[3] See A/C.2/71/SR.28.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the mandate contained in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997,[1] the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000[2] and the Nusa Dua Declaration of 26 February 2010,[3]

Reaffirming also its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

Recalling its resolutions 67/213 of 21 December 2012, 68/215 of 20 December 2013 and 69/223 of 19 December 2014,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[4] and its principles,

Taking into account Agenda 21[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome[7] and the outcome document of the special event of the General Assembly to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[8]

Recalling also the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[9]

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[2] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

[3] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/65/25), annex I, decision SS.XI/9.

[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[5] Ibid., annex II.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[7] Resolution 60/1.

[8] Resolution 68/6.

[9] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global cha lenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Actior Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[10] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[11] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Taking note of the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to addressing the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

Committed to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

Committed also to enhancing the voice of the United Nations Environment Programme and its ability to fulfil its coordination mandate within the United Nations system by strengthening its engagement in key United Nations coordination bodies and empowering it to lead efforts to formulate United Nations system-wide strategies on the environment,

Reiterating the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget,

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[10] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Reaffirming the commitments, as contained in the ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014,[12] inter alia, to ensure the full integration of the environmental dimension, especially throughout the sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entitled "The future we want",[13] and noting the follow-up on paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h), of the outcome document, including through General Assembly resolution 67/213,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, in Nairobi, from 23 to 27 May 2016, and takes note of the report on the session and the resolutions and decisions contained therein;[14]

2. *Recognizes* the commitment of the United Nations Environment Assembly to contributing to the effective implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[15] in an integrated manner, as reflected in its resolution 2/5 of 27 May 2016;[16]

3. *Encourages* the President of the United Nations Environment Assembly to convey the main messages agreed upon by the Environment Assembly at its sessions during the high-level political forum convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, as appropriate, taking into account the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as General Assembly resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 70/299 of 29 July 2016;

4. *Notes* the relevance of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme to the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held in June 2017, and encourages its secretariat to provide the necessary inputs, as appropriate;

5. *Reiterates* that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard calls for the continued and focused implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building[9] adopted by the Programme;

6. *Also reiterates* the continuing need for the United Nations Environment Programme to conduct up-to-date, comprehensive, scientifically based and policy-relevant global environmental assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels;

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[12] UNEP/EA.1/10, annex I, resolution 1/1.
[13] Resolution 66/288, annex.
[14] UNEP/EA.2/19.
[15] Resolution 70/1.
[16] See UNEP/EA.2/19, annex I.

7. *Notes* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide options to secure the participation of developing countries in the Environment Assembly;[17]

8. *Urges* all Member States and other stakeholders in a position to do so to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund, notes the need for continued efforts to broaden the donor base and mobilize resources from all sources, including stakeholders, and welcomes the increased support received in this regard;

9. *Takes note* of resolution 2/22 adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 27 May 2016 on the review of the cycle of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme,[16] in which it decided to hold its regular sessions in odd-numbered years commencing with its third session, in 2017, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme", unless otherwise agreed.

[17] UNEP/EA.1/10, annex I, resolution 1/15.

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Agenda item 19 (h)

Sustainable development: Harmony with Nature

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (h) was taken at the 20th and 28th meetings, on 24 October and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.8 and A/C.2/71/L.50

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Harmony with Nature" (A/C.2/71/L.8).

3. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Harmony with Nature" (A/C.2/71/L.50), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Díaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.8.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.50 had no programme budget implications.

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* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.50 (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.50, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.8 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Harmony with Nature

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[5]

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[6]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Recalling its resolutions 64/196 of 21 December 2009, 65/164 of 20 December 2010, 66/204 of 22 December 2011, 67/214 of 21 December 2012, 68/216 of 20 December 2013, 69/224 of 19 December 2014 and 70/208 of 22 December 2015 on Harmony with Nature and its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009, by which it designated 22 April as International Mother Earth Day,

Recalling also the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[7]

Noting with appreciation the virtual dialogue on Harmony with Nature among, inter alia, experts on Earth jurisprudence, including the participation of those who have been active in the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly, held from 22 April to 22 June 2016 and hosted on the website on Harmony with Nature, to commemorate International Mother Earth Day and to inspire citizens and societies to reconsider how they interact with the natural world in order to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in harmony with nature, noting that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development,

Recognizing that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions, noting that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development, and expressing the conviction that, in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature,

Noting that, in promoting a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development in harmony with nature, Earth system science plays a significant role,

Expressing concern about documented environmental degradation, potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity, and recognizing the need to strengthen scientific knowledge on the effects of human activities on the Earth systems, with the aim of promoting and ensuring an equitable, balanced and sustainable relationship with the Earth,

Taking note of the Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,[8]

Recognizing that a number of countries consider Mother Earth the source of all life and nourishment and that these countries consider Mother Earth and humankind to be an indivisible, living community of interrelated and interdependent beings,

Noting that in recent years there have been many initiatives on sustainable development governance, including policy documents on living well in harmony with nature,

Taking note of the conceptual framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,[9]

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[7] Resolution 37/7, annex.

[8] See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

[9] IPBES/2/17.

Recognizing that gross domestic product was not designed as an indicator for measuring environmental degradation resulting from human activity and the need to overcome this limitation with regard to sustainable development and the work carried out in this regard,

Recognizing also the uneven availability of basic statistical data under the three dimensions of sustainable development and the need to improve their quality and quantity,

Reaffirming that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles,

Recognizing that many ancient civilizations, indigenous peoples and indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

Recognizing also that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods and therefore contribute to global efforts and initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing further the work undertaken by civil society, academia and scientists with regard to signalling the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts, along with those of Governments and private sector organizations, to devise more sustainable models and methods for production and consumption,

Considering that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the experts' summary report of the first virtual dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature among, inter alia, experts on Earth jurisprudence,[10] as well as of the hosting of the virtual dialogue, held from 22 April to 22 June 2016, on the website on Harmony with Nature;

2. *Invites* Member States to consider existing studies and, as appropriate, the findings and recommendations of the reports of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature,[11] of the experts' summary report of the virtual dialogue, addressing Earth jurisprudence, and of the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature in the promotion of the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development through harmony with nature;

[10] See A/71/266.

[11] A/65/314, A/66/302, A/67/317, A/68/325, A/69/322 and A/70/268.

3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, at the seventy-first session of the Assembly, an interactive dialogue, to be held at the plenary meetings to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day on 22 April 2017, with the participation of Member States, United Nations organizations, independent experts and other stakeholders, to discuss the recommendations of the experts' summary report, so as to inspire citizens and societies to reconsider how they interact with the natural world and to improve the ethical basis of the relationship between humankind and the Earth in the context of sustainable development;

4. *Decides* to continue observing International Mother Earth Day annually on 22 April, requests the Secretary-General to provide continuing support, and encourages Member States to observe the International Day at the national level;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the agreement between the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat,[12] invites Member States to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature under the trust fund of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, aiming, inter alia, at the participation of independent experts in the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, and invites relevant stakeholders to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use the website, maintained by the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to gather information and contributions on ideas and activities to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature and to advance the integration of interdisciplinary scientific work, including success stories on the use of traditional knowledge and on existing national legislation;

7. *Calls for* holistic and integrated approaches to sustainable development, in its three dimensions, that will guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystems;

8. *Invites* States, as appropriate:

(a) To further build up a knowledge network in order to advance a holistic conceptualization of sustainable development in its three dimensions to identify different economic approaches that reflect the drivers and values of living in harmony with nature, relying on current scientific information to achieve sustainable development, and to facilitate support for and recognition of the fundamental interconnections between humankind and nature;

(b) To promote harmony with the Earth, including as found in indigenous cultures, to learn from those cultures and to support and promote efforts being made from the national level down to the local community level to reflect the protection of nature;

9. *Encourages* all countries to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of basic national statistical data on the three dimensions of sustainable

[12] Available from www.harmonywithnatureun.org/trustfund.html.

development, and invites the international community and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system to assist the efforts of developing countries by providing capacity-building and technical support;

10. *Recognizes* the need for broader measures of progress to complement gross domestic product in order to better inform policy decisions, and in this regard notes the ongoing work of the Statistical Commission on a work programme to develop broader measures of progress and to conduct a technical review of existing efforts in this area;[13]

11. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Harmony with Nature", unless otherwise agreed.

[13] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 4* (E/2013/24), chap. I, sect. C, decision 44/114.